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ing gums, and black vomit. Dr. Jumel, resident physician for Louisiana State board of health, and Dr. Steggall, the city physician, concur in the diagnosis of yellow fever.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels.

Date.	Name of vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Apr. 24	Venus	28	0	0	0
25	Alabama	19	0	0	0
26	Algiers	33	0	0	0
27	Alene	42	35	1	0

Sanitary conditions at Limon—Proposed improvements—Yellow fever, Malarial diseases, and tuberculosis—Compulsory vaccination.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Gruver reports, April 24, as follows:

An investigation of the hospital records here shows that yellow fever continues throughout the year, and that there is no period when this port is not infected.

From November 1, 1902, when the quarantine season closed, to April 9, 1903, the date of my arrival here, 29 cases of yellow fever were treated in the three hospitals, with a total mortality of 12. This, however, can not be considered the total number of cases during that period as it has reference merely to those admitted to the hospitals. We have no means of ascertaining the number of cases which may have occurred in private practice or were unattended, as the law requires that only deaths be reported. I attempted to obtain the official list of deaths covering that period, but found that the records had been sent to San Jose and no copy had been retained here.

The sanitary conditions are poor, not only in the city of Limon, but also in the surrounding territory. Many of the cases reported from this city are brought from plantations in the interior and from stations on both the Costa Rican and Northern railroads.

The hospitals are situated in the heart of the city. They are old, unsanitary in construction, and offer good breeding places for germs and for the propagation of disease. Isolation in one of them is impossible.

The houses in most cases are of wood, built low to the ground, and they cover stagnant pools from which noxious odors arise.

The city is divided into squares. Many of them are unimproved and below the street level. They are without drainage, and after a rain the water collected remains until absorbed.

Occasionally a case of leprosy comes to the city. I am told that this disease is very frequently found in the contiguous territory, but seldom reaches the city.

The water supply for domestic purposes comes from a locality about 10 miles up the Banana River, beyond all human habitation.

The health authorities of Limon have awakened to the gravity of the situation, and at a meeting held recently made the following suggestions to the governor of Limon, with a request that they be recommended to the medical faculty at San Jose: 1, hospitals to be moved

outside city limits; 2, sewerage system to be remodeled; 3, certain houses to be raised and lots filled to street grade; 4, all old houses to be whitewashed within and without; 5, empty lots to be drained and filled; 6, privy vaults abolished and portable ones used until connection with sewers can be effected.

Many of these recommendations are already being enforced, and a large gang of laborers is daily at work cleaning up the city.

An active quarantine is in force against Bocas del Toro, where smallpox was reported several weeks ago. All passengers and crews from there are vaccinated and detained in quarantine on a little island 1 mile from the shore for a period necessary to complete fourteen days from departure from Bocas. Compulsory vaccination of the entire population has been ordered and is being vigorously enforced.

Malaria in all its types is ever present, fully 1,500 cases occurring in one hospital within twelve months.

The hemoglobinuric type, called here "black-water fever," is very frequent and more fatal than yellow fever.

Tuberculosis is also very common.

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos—Inspection of vessels—Mortality statistics—Scarcity of water.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McMahon reports, April 29, as follows:
Week ended April 25, 1903.

Five bills of health were issued to vessels going to ports in the United States. All the vessels were in good sanitary condition; no sickness.

The mortuary report for the city for this week is as follows: Arteriosclerosis 3, pernicious fever 1, paludism 1, tuberculosis 1, other causes 8; total 14.

It remains very dry here and good water is getting very scarce in this city. No quarantinable disease reported in this district.

Report from Habana—Smallpox on Spanish steamship Montserrat at Habana—Disinfection.

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports, May 4, as follows:

The Spanish steamship *Montserrat* from Spain, Canary Islands, and Porto Rico, arrived at this port on May 1 with one case of smallpox among the steerage passengers. The first and second class passengers presenting evidence of having had smallpox or a recent successful vaccination were released. All remaining cabin passengers, unprotected, were sent to Tricornia detention camp for fourteen days' observation, and all of the steerage passengers were sent to Mariel and will be held there for fourteen days.

Upon request of Dr. Hugo Roberts, executive officer of the Cuban quarantine service, I brought the *Sanator* alongside of the *Montserrat* and disinfected the hospital and the adjoining steerage compartments by sulphur and the bedding by steam. The hand baggage of all passengers was disinfected by formalin. The *Sanator* returned to her buoy on the 2d instant.